

United States Mint, Philadelphia, Penn.,

MELTER AND REFINER'S DEPARTMENT,

7<sup>th</sup> April, 1879.

Hon. A. Loudon Snowden

Superintendent

Sir,

Our lack of Storage-room for Silver bars, has necessitated our piling them in all kinds of available places, and since they were received in small lots of 10 to 100 bars, from different establishments, each with their peculiar numbers, which are often the same, altho' of different finenesses, — we often spend a long time in hunting for a particular lot, or it may be a particular bar, & then sometimes find we have mistaken the lot or bar. I have, in consequence of this oft recurring difficulty, thought that we might remedy the evil, by having a set of the 10 digits of our own peculiar form, and stamping every bar that arrives in future with our own assay number. Our numbers would then correspond with the books



of the Mint, the Receiver's, the Assayer's, & our own,  
and confusion would be impossible.

If you approve of this suggestion I will get  
out the usual form of requisition.

Very respectfully yours  
J. C. Booth

M. V. R.

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 116

United States Mint, Philadelphia, Penn.,  
Melter and Refiner's Department,  
April 7, 1879

Hon. A. Loudon Snowden  
Superintendent

Sir,

Our lack of storage-room for Silver bars has necessitated our piling them in all kinds of available places, and since they were received in small lots of 10 to 100 bars, from different establishments, each with their peculiar numbers, which are often the same, altho' of different fineness, - we often spend a long time in hunting for a particular lot, or it may be a particular bar, & then sometimes find we have mistaken the lot or bar. I have, in consequence of this oft recurring difficulty, thought that we might remedy the evil, by having a set of the 10 digits of our own peculiar form, and stamping every bar that arrives in future with our own assay number. Our numbers would then correspond with the books of the Mint, the Receiver's, the Assayer's, & our own, and confusion would be impossible.

If you approve of this suggestion I will get out the usual form of requisition.

Very respectfully yours,  
Jas. C. Booth  
M & R